

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Filed :
For : INFORMATION BROADCASTING METHOD, INFORMATION
BROADCASTING SYSTEM, AND RECEIVING APPARATUS FOR
TRANSMITTING DATA OTHER THAN PROGRAM THROUGH
DIGITAL BROADCASTING
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the initial examination of the above-identified application, which is a division of application Serial No. 09/066,758 filed April 28, 1998, Applicants respectfully request that the application be amended as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 33-58 by rewriting same to read as follows, cancel claims 1-32, without prejudice or disclaimer, and add new claims 59-63 set forth below.

--33. (Amended) An information broadcasting system comprising:

a receiving apparatus including image input means for inputting an image of an individual creating personal data, output means for outputting the personal data, input means, communicating means, and digital broadcasting receiving means;

a server for receiving the personal data from the receiving apparatus, transmitting the personal data to the receiving apparatus, and managing the personal data; and

two-way communicating means for coupling a plurality of receiving apparatuses with the server,

wherein the personal data is electronically exchanged among the receiving apparatuses by using the server and the two-way communicating means.

--34. (Amended) A receiving apparatus comprising:

image input means for inputting an image of an individual creating personal data;

output means for outputting the personal data;

input means;
communication means; and
receiving means for receiving a digital broadcasting
signal; and wherein

the personal data is electronically exchanged by using
the communicating means, a server, and two-way communicating means.

--35. (Amended) An information broadcasting system
comprising:

a receiving apparatus including image input means for
inputting an image of an individual creating personal data, output
means for outputting the personal data, input means, and receiving
means for receiving a digital broadcasting signal;

a gateway, including a storing device and communicating
means and being connected to a plurality of receiving apparatuses,
receives the personal data from the plurality of receiving
apparatuses and sends the personal data to the plurality of
receiving apparatuses;

a server for receiving the personal data from the
gateway, for transmitting the personal data to the gateway, and for
managing the personal data; and

two-way communicating means for coupling the plurality of
gateways with the server,

wherein the personal data is electronically exchanged among the receiving apparatuses through the gateways by using the server and the two-way communicating means.

--36. (Amended) A receiving apparatus system comprising:

a receiving apparatus including image input means for inputting an image of an individual creating personal data, output means for outputting the personal data, input means, and receiving means for receiving a digital broadcasting signal; and

a gateway, including a storing device and communicating means and being connected to a plurality of receiving apparatuses, receives the personal data from the plurality of receiving apparatuses and sends the personal data to the plurality of receiving apparatuses,

wherein the personal data is electronically exchanged by using the communicating means, a server, and two-way communicating means.

--37. (Amended) The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 33, 34, 35 or 36, wherein the system or the receiving apparatus has a personal data exchanging function and a communication Karaoke function.

--38. (Amended) The system or the apparatus according to claim 33 [to] ,34, 35 or 36, wherein the personal data and messages are transmitted to the receiving apparatus by using the digital broadcasting signal.

--39. (Amended) The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 33, 34, 35 or 36, wherein, when input of the personal data is completed, a data identification code usable by all users of services at a time of a retrieval of the personal data and added to the personal data and a password known by only the individual creating the personal data and used for a specific service are issued.

--40. (Amended) The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 33, 34, 35 or wherein the personal data has auxiliary information accompanying the image of the individual creating the personal data and inputted by the individual.

--41. (Amended) The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 33, 34, 35 or 36, wherein the personal data has:
auxiliary information accompanying the image of the individual creating the personal data and inputted by the individual; and

detailed information formed by the individual creating the personal data and inputted by an input device other than a terminal.

--42. (Amended) The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 40, wherein retrieval information for retrieving personal data desired for exchange is provided by the auxiliary information.

--43. (Amended) The receiving apparatus or the receiving apparatus system, according to claim 34 or 36, wherein:

the personal data has a plurality of types of auxiliary information accompanying the image of the individual creating the personal data and inputted by the individual;

retrieval information for retrieving the personal data whose exchange is desired is provided by displaying the auxiliary information; and

auxiliary information to be displayed is selected.

--44. (Amended) The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 40, wherein the auxiliary information is an audio message.

--45. (Amended) The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 40, wherein the auxiliary information is an animation message.

--46. (Amended) The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 40, wherein the auxiliary information is selected from a plurality of regular messages.

--47. (Amended) The receiving apparatus or the receiving apparatus system according to claim 34 or 36, wherein:

the personal data has one of an audio message and an animation message as auxiliary information accompanying the image of the individual creating the personal data; and

a timing to start an input is displayed when one of the audio message and the animation message is inputted.

--48. (Amended) The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 40, wherein the auxiliary information is a character message.

--49. (Amended) The receiving apparatus or the receiving apparatus system according to claim 34 or 36, wherein:

the personal data has a character message as auxiliary

information accompanying the image of the individual creating the personal data; and

characters are allocated to numerals of two digits when the character message is inputted, thereby enabling an input operation of the character message using only numeral keys.

--50. (Amended) The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 33, 34, 35 or 36, wherein data which changes depending on a number of elapsed days from a date of creation of the personal data is displayed by one of the receiving apparatus and the receiving apparatus system.

--51. (Amended) The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 33, 34, 35 or 36, wherein a message and a data identification code possessed by an individual desiring personal data exchange are transmitted to the individual creating the personal data selected by the individual desiring personal data exchange.

--52. (Amended) The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 33, 34, 35 or 36, wherein, when a message to the individual creating the personal data from an individual desiring personal data exchange is preserved in the server, if the

individual creating the personal data is using the receiving apparatus, notification that the message has been registered is transmitted to the individual creating the personal data in a real-time manner.

--53. (Amended) The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 33, 34, 35 or 36, wherein:

a message is transmitted to the individual creating the personal data selected by an individual desiring personal data exchange; and

the individual creating the personal data who received the message must input a data identification code and a password to display the message.

--54. (Amended) The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 53, wherein, after the message is displayed, the individual creating the personal data issues a print permission to the data identification code of the individual desiring personal data exchange.

--55. (Amended) The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 54, wherein:

permission information is recorded into the server as

additional information of the personal data; and

the individual desiring personal data exchange prints the personal data only when the data identification code of the individual desiring personal data exchange is included in the permission information added to the personal.

--56. (Amended) The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 35 or 36, wherein the gateway collectively transmits at every predetermined period of time the personal data inputted by the receiving apparatuses to the server.

--57. (Amended) The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 35 or 36, wherein most recent personal data preserved in the server is first transmitted to one of the terminal and the gateway.

--58. (Amended) The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 57, wherein a weight is added to each element of information on one of the receiving apparatus side and the gateway side and the information is sequentially and preferentially preserved according to a level of significance of the information.

--59. (New) The system or the receiving apparatus

according to claim 41, wherein retrieval information for retrieving personal data desired for exchange is provided by the auxiliary information.

--60. (New) The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 41, wherein the auxiliary information is an audio message. .

--61. (New) The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 41, wherein the auxiliary information is an animation message.

--62. (New) The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 41, wherein the auxiliary information is selected from a plurality of regular messages.

--63. (New) The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 41, wherein the auxiliary information is a character message.--

REMARKS

Claims 33-58 remain in the application and have been amended hereby, with claims 1-32 having been cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer, and new claims 59-63 having been added.

This application is a division of application number 09/066,758 filed April 28, 1998. On November 27, 2001 a restriction requirement issued in that parent application, and this division is directed to the non-elected invention in that parent application.

This application is based upon an earlier-filed foreign application and the amendments made to the claims are thought to be necessary to place the application in idiomatic English and to present the claims for better condition for examination.

An early and favorable examination on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE
IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 33-58 by rewriting same to read as follows, cancel claims 1-32, without prejudice or disclaimer, and add new claims 59-63 set forth below.

--33. (Amended) An information broadcasting system comprising:

a receiving apparatus [constructed by] including image input means for inputting an image of [a] an individual creating personal data [making person], output means for outputting the personal data, input means, communicating means, and digital broadcasting receiving means;

a server for receiving [said] the personal data from [said] the receiving apparatus, transmitting [said] the personal data to [said] the receiving apparatus, and managing [said] the personal data; and

two-way communicating means for coupling a plurality of [said] receiving apparatuses [and said] with the server,

wherein [said] the personal data [can be] is electronically exchanged among [said] the receiving apparatuses by using [said] the server and [said] the two-way communicating means.

--34. (Amended) A receiving apparatus comprising:

image input means for inputting an image of [a] an individual creating personal data [making person,];

output means for outputting the personal data[,];

input means[,];

communication means[,]; and

receiving means [of] for receiving a digital broadcasting[,] signal; and wherein

[said] the personal data is electronically exchanged by

using [said] the communicating means, a server, and two-way communicating means.

--35. (Amended) An information broadcasting system comprising:

a receiving apparatus [constructed by] including image input means for inputting an image of [a] an individual creating personal data [making person], output means for outputting the personal data, input means, and receiving means [of] for receiving a digital broadcasting signal;

a gateway [which includes], including a storing device and communicating means[, is] and being connected to a plurality of [said] receiving apparatuses, receives the personal data from [said] the plurality of receiving apparatuses[, and [sending] sends the personal data to [said] the plurality of receiving apparatuses;

a server for receiving [said] the personal data from [said] the gateway, for transmitting [said] the personal data to [said] the gateway, and for managing [said] the personal data; and

two-way communicating means for coupling [said] the plurality of gateways [and said] with the server,

wherein [said] the personal data [can be] is electronically exchanged among [said] the receiving apparatuses through [said] the gateways by using [said] the server and [said] the two-way communicating means.

--36. (Amended) A receiving apparatus system comprising:

a receiving apparatus [constructed by] including image input means for inputting an image of [a] an individual creating personal data [making person], output means for outputting the personal data, input means, and receiving means [of] for receiving

a digital broadcasting signal; and

a gateway [which includes], including a storing device and communicating means[, is] and being connected to a plurality of [said] receiving apparatuses, receives the personal data from [said] the plurality of receiving apparatuses[, and [sending] sends the personal data to [said] the plurality of receiving apparatuses,

wherein [said] the personal data [can be] is electronically exchanged by using [said] the communicating means, [said] a server, and [said] two-way communicating means.

--37. (Amended) [A] The system or the receiving apparatus according to [any one of claims] claim 33 [to], 34, 35 or 36, wherein [said] the system or the receiving apparatus has [both of] a personal data exchanging function and a communication Karaoke function.

--38. (Amended) [A] The system or the apparatus according to [any one of claims] claim 33 [to] , 34, 35 or 36, wherein the personal data and messages are transmitted to the receiving apparatus by using the digital broadcasting signal.

--39. (Amended) [A] The system or the receiving apparatus according to [any one of claims] claim 33 [to], 34, 35 or 36, wherein, when [the] input of the personal data is completed, a data [ID which can be used] identification code usable by all users of services at [the] a time of a retrieval [or the like] of the personal data and [is] added to [each] the personal data and a password [which can be] known by only the individual creating the personal data [making person] and [is] used [to use] for a specific service are issued.

--40. (Amended) [A] The system or the receiving apparatus according to [any one of claims] claim 33 [to], 34, 35 or wherein [said] the personal data has auxiliary information [which is accompanied to an] accompanying the image of the individual creating the personal data [making person] and [is] inputted by [said personal data making person] the individual.

--41. (Amended) [A] The system or the receiving apparatus according to [any one of claims] claim 33 [to], 34, 35 or 36, wherein [said] the personal data has:

auxiliary information [which is accompanied to an] accompanying the image of the individual creating the personal data [making person] and [is] inputted by [said personal data making person] the individual; and

detailed information [which is] formed by [said] the individual creating the personal data [making person] and [is] inputted by an input device other than [said] a terminal.

--42. (Amended) [A] The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 40 [or 41], wherein retrieval information [to retrieve] for retrieving personal data [whose exchange is] desired for exchange is provided by [said] the auxiliary information.

--43. (Amended) [A] The receiving apparatus or the receiving apparatus system, according to claim 34 or 36, wherein:

[said] the personal data has a plurality of [kinds] types of auxiliary information [which are accompanied to an] accompanying the image of the individual creating the personal data [making person] and [are] inputted by [said personal data making person,] the individual;

retrieval information [to retrieve] for retrieving the personal data whose exchange is desired is provided by displaying [said] the auxiliary information[,]; and

[among said plurality of kinds of auxiliary information,] auxiliary information [of a kind] to be displayed [can be] is selected.

--44. (Amended) [A] The system or [a] the receiving apparatus according to claim 40 [or 41], wherein [said] the auxiliary information is an audio message.

--45. (Amended) [A] The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 40 [or 41], wherein [said] the auxiliary information is an animation message.

--46. (Amended) [A] The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 40 [or 41], wherein [said] the auxiliary information is selected from a plurality of regular messages.

--47. (Amended) [A] The receiving apparatus or the receiving apparatus system according to claim 34 or 36, wherein:

[said] the personal data has one of an audio message [or] and an animation message as auxiliary information [accompanied to an] accompanying the image of the individual creating the personal data [making person,]; and

[when said audio message or said animation message is inputted,] a timing to start [the] an input is displayed when one of the audio message and the animation message is inputted.

--48. (Amended) [A] The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 40 [or 41], wherein [said] the auxiliary

information is a character message.

--49. (Amended) [A] The receiving apparatus or the receiving apparatus system according to claim 34 or 36, wherein:

[said] the personal data has a character message as auxiliary information [accompanied to an] accompanying the image of the individual creating the personal data [making person,]; and

[when said character message is inputted,] characters are allocated to numerals of two digits when the character message is inputted, thereby enabling an input operation of the character message [to be inputted by] using only numeral keys.

--50. (Amended) [A] The system or the receiving apparatus according to [any one of claims] claim 33 [to], 34, 35 or 36, wherein data which changes depending on [the] a number of elapsed days from a date of [making] creation of the personal data [can be] is displayed by one of the receiving apparatus [or] and the receiving apparatus system.

--51. (Amended) [A] The system or the receiving apparatus according to [any one of claims] claim 33 [to], 34, 35 or 36, wherein a message and a data [ID which] identification code possessed by an individual desiring personal data exchange [desiring person has] are transmitted to the individual crating the personal data [making person] selected by [said] the individual desiring personal data exchange [desiring person].

--52. (Amended) [A] The system or the receiving apparatus according to [claims] claim 33 [to], 34, 35 or 36, wherein, when a message to the individual creating the personal data [making

person] from an individual desiring personal data exchange [desiring person] is preserved in the server, if [said] the individual creating the personal data [making person] is using the receiving apparatus, [a fact] notification that the message has been registered is [notified] transmitted to [said] the individual creating the personal data [making person] in a real-time manner.

--53. (Amended) [A] The system or the receiving apparatus according to [claims] claim 33 [to], 34, 35 or 36, wherein:

[the] a message is transmitted to the individual creating the personal data [making person] selected by an individual desiring personal data exchange [desiring person,]; and

[to display said message, said] the individual creating the personal data [making person] who received [said] the message [needs to] must input a data [ID] identification code and a password to display the message.

--54. (Amended) [A] The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 53, wherein, after [said] the message [was] is displayed, [said] the individual creating the personal data [making person] issues a print permission to the data [ID] identification code of [said] the individual desiring personal data exchange [desiring person].

--55. (Amended) [A] The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 54, wherein:

permission information is recorded into the server as additional information of the personal data [to which said permission information was issued,]; and

[in the case where] the individual desiring personal data exchange [desiring person] prints the personal data[,] only when

[a] the data [ID] identification code of [said] the individual desiring personal data exchange [desiring person] is included in the permission information [which is] added to the personal data[, the printing is permitted].

--56. (Amended) [A] The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 35 or 36, wherein [said] the gateway collectively transmits at every predetermined period of time the personal data inputted by [said] the receiving apparatuses to the server [every predetermined period of time].

--57. (Amended) [A] The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 35 or 36, wherein [the latest] most recent personal data preserved in the server is [previously] first transmitted to [said] one of the terminal [or said] and the gateway.

--58. (Amended) [A] The system or the receiving apparatus according to claim 57, wherein a weight is added [every] to each element of information on [said] one of the receiving apparatus [or] side and the gateway side and the information is sequentially and preferentially preserved [from] according to a level of significance of the information [having higher significance].